

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as lacking antecedent basis for the term "the enclosure processor." Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Leigh et al, US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0148438 ("Leigh"). Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 1-18 in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 7, and 13 have been amended to respectively provide antecedent basis for the term "the enclosure processor." Accordingly, the §112 rejections should be withdrawn.

With regard to the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Leigh, claim 1 has been amended to highlight patentable aspects of the invention that may not have been fully appreciated. Specifically, claim 1, as amended, is directed to a method for "enabling enclosure services in a computer system host including a multi-device enclosure having an enclosure processor for monitoring a condition of devices installed in the enclosure, the enclosure processor in communication with a host bus adapter of the computer system host" that includes the steps of "providing a communications port between the multi-device enclosure of the computer system host and the host bus adapter of the computer system host...providing respective transceivers for asynchronously interconnecting the enclosure processor of the computer system host and the host bus adapter of the computer system host through the communications port" and "configuring the processor to asynchronously notify the host bus adaptor of the status of any given device of the enclosure." Thus, claim 1 is expressly directed to enabling enclosure services, such as Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) enclosure services, between an enclosure processor of an enclosure of a computer host and a host bus adapter of the computer host. This is very different from the remote management system described by Leigh.

In contrast to the method recited in claim 1, Leigh discloses a method for communicating with and remotely managing operation of a plurality of servers by a remote management computer via a network. See Leigh, Abstract, FIG. 3 and page 1, paragraphs [0013] and [0014]. This is very different from the claimed invention for “enabling enclosure services in a computer system host including a multi-device enclosure having an enclosure processor for monitoring a condition of devices installed in the enclosure, the enclosure processor in communication with host bus adapter of the computer system host.” In fact, it is respectfully submitted that Leigh teaches away from the operational relationship of “providing a communications port between the multi-device enclosure of the computer system host and the host bus adapter of the computer system host” being that Leigh expressly describes a network between a server and a remote management module (RMM). It is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that enclosure services in a computer system host bears little or no relationship between a server and an associated management module. On this basis alone, it is submitted that Leigh fails to anticipate claim 1. However, applicant will proceed to discuss below an alternative basis for distinguishing Leigh.

Applicant submits that Leigh fails to teach or suggest asynchronous communications. Accordingly, Leigh fails to teach or suggest “providing respective transceivers for asynchronously interconnecting the enclosure processor of the computer system host and the host bus adapter of the computer system host through the communications port” and “configuring the processor to asynchronously notify the host bus adaptor of the status of any given device of the enclosure.” For all the above reasons, applicant respectfully submits that Leigh fails to support a rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 102(e), and that the rejection should be withdrawn. Since each of the claims that depend from an independent claim incorporate the structural and/or operational relationships recited in that independent claim, it is also respectfully submitted that Leigh also

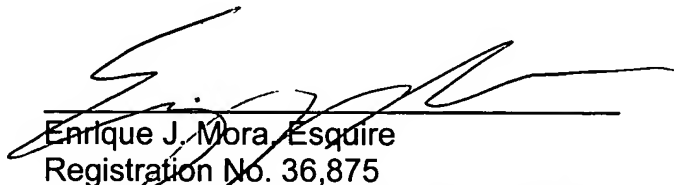
fails to anticipate or otherwise render unpatentable the claims that depend from claim 1.

Claim 7 is directed to a computer bus interface for enabling enclosure services in a computer system host including a multi-device enclosure having an enclosure processor for monitoring a condition of devices installed in the enclosure. The enclosure processor being in communication with a host bus adapter of the computer system host and including a plurality of slots for removably receiving respective devices in the enclosure. In view of the discussion above, it is respectfully submitted that Leigh fails to support an anticipation rejection of claim 7, and claims depending therefrom, and consequently these rejections should be withdrawn.

Claim 13 is directed to a computer-readable medium including instructions for causing an interface to enable enclosure services in a computer system host including a multi device enclosure having an enclosure processor for monitoring a condition of devices installed in the enclosure. The enclosure processor being in communication with a host bus adapter of the computer system host and including a plurality of slots for removably receiving respective devices in the enclosure. At least one of the devices comprises an Advanced Technology Attachment (ATA)-accessible device. In view of the discussion above, it is respectfully submitted that Leigh fails to support an anticipation rejection of claim 13, and claims depending therefrom, and consequently these rejections should be withdrawn.

The applicant appreciates the Examiner's efforts for conducting a thorough and concise examination, and respectfully requests that the application as amended be allowed in its entirety. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney if there are any outstanding items that may be resolved via telephone conference.

Respectfully submitted,



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